(c) the action being taken to retain the special status of these persons as the State of Jammu and Kashmir does not consider them its citizens after they have remained out of the State for ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As intimated by the Government of J&K, the issue regarding return of Kashmiri migrants is on top of its agenda and they are in the process of finalising an action plan for early and safe return of the migrants to the Valley. Separately, a social interaction programme has been initiated under which some migrants have visited the Valley so as to pave the way for return to the Valley.

**Task force escalates naxalite violence**

†5516. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that naxalite violence has increased heavily after constitution of task force to stop it;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the extent of area affected by the naxalite violence and naxalite influence has also increased these days;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is correct that the number of naxalities died in fake encounter has also increased; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The Coordination Centre was set up in June 1998 comprising the Union Home Secretary and the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the affected States. The Coordination Centre continues to assist the States and monitors the situation periodically. The overall law and order situation is under control.

(d) and (e) There are no reports to this effect.

**Deployment of Assam rifles in NE**

5517. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam Rifles is deploying five Companies in every battalion for counter insurgency operation in Manipur; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what are the reasons that Assam Rifles are deploying only four battalions for counter insurgency in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Assam Rifles is following a uniform operational deployment pattern in the North-East under which four of the six companies per battalion are operationally deployed at any one time.

**Nexus between ISI and Naxalites**

5518. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Naxalities in the country are getting assistance from Pakistan's ISI as reported in the "Statesman" dated 7th March, 2000;

(b) whether Government have failed to break nexus between Naxalities and ISI activists;

(c) whether Government have failed to check acitivites of Naxalites as well as ISI in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of assistance given to State Governments to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) There are no confirmed report in this regard.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects. In the circumstances the concerned State Governments have to devise various measures and take concerete steps to curb left wing extremist/ISI activities in the State. However, keeping in view the over all dimension which left wing extremism has assumed in some States, it has become a matter of concern for the Central Government as well. It has, therefore, set up a high level Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States as its members, to review and coordinate steps taken by the these States to check the left wing extremist activities, monitor the plan of action in respect of each State and to make recommendations both on devleopment and secuity aspects of the problem.